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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Akira GYOTOKU et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

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: Concurrently Herewith

For

: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims the right of priority granted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119 based upon Japanese Application Nos. 2002-354073, filed December 5, 2002; and 2003-393620, filed November 25, 2003.

Respectfully submitted, Akira GYOTOKU et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein

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December 4, 2003 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191